

CITY OFFICIAL PAPER.

The Record-Union is the only paper on

the coast, outside of San Francisco, that

receives the full Associated Press dispatches from

all parts of the world. Outside of San Fran-

cisco it has no competitor, in point of num-

ber, in its home and general circulation

throughout the coast.

TO-DAY'S LEADING NEWS TOPICS.

A severe earthquake shock is reported from

Guaymas, Sonora.

Harvard University yesterday sent out an

army of two hundred and twenty-six gradu-

ates.

California fruits are in good demand in Chi-

cago, and bring good prices.

A sensation has been caused in Paris by the

rejection of General Ferrero's army proposals.

The Amer of Afghanistan's troops have suf-

fered defeat at the hands of the Ghilzais.

Jacob Sharp, the writer of New York Abier-

men, was yesterday convicted.

COL AYERS' CRUSHING REVENGER.

Ex-State Printer J. L. Ayers has re-

plied to the San Francisco Chronicle's

charge that the State school text-books

have exceeded in cost the estimates made by

Mr. Ayers. The latter now shows the dis-

ingenuousness of the Chronicle's exhibit.

It appears that Colonel Ayers figured for

the Legislature only upon the mechanical

work. Obviously the clerical work and

cost of the compilation he could not con-

cern himself about, nor did the Legisla-

ture ask him to do so.

Moreover, the authorities concluded to

issue the books in fine cloth, binding of a

superior order; Colonel Ayers figured on

paper and ordinary binding. The books

were estimated to contain 704 pages, but

they were enlarged to contain 1,128 pages,

and unquestionably for the benefit of the

schools.

On this exposition, Colonel Ayers shows

that his estimates, so far from being wide

of the mark, were remarkably accurate.

The increase of pages over his estimates is

of cost over his estimates but 48 per cent.;

so that in fact the books put out under his

administration actually cost less than he

estimated they would.

Taking the statements of the Chronicle,

Colonel Ayers declares that "it would be im-

possible in the whole range of controversy

to find more hard facts, more concrete

presentation of facts, more indecent

shuffling of figures to bolster a shoddy

publication, or more arithmetical dark-

ness in the same number of lines," than

appear in the Chronicle's mendacious

charges against the State text-book system

and administration.

One point the Colonel makes has not

heretofore been considered to wit: in

purchasing the new plant for printing

and binding, the Legislature specially in-

vited to be used for other State work

also, and it is therefore wholly unjust to

charge the whole plant against the school

book system. The Legislature appropri-

ated \$150,000 for the plant and text-

book work. The cost of the text-book

plant was \$30,431, but because it was fitted

for other uses the cost was raised by the

Legislature to \$37,017, and this must be

deducted from the \$150,000 appropriated.

Colonel Ayers goes elaborately into the

whole matter to show the hollow

Chronicle's figures, and the absolute

falsity of its conclusion and charges. We

invite the attention of our readers to

Colonel Ayers' full statement, published

elsewhere in this issue. While it refutes

all the Chronicle's charges, we do not con-

sider it highly important, because the

one fact that is beyond denial stands boldly

to the front—the State school books are

up to the standard, cost the people from 50

to 70 per cent. less than they had to pay for

like books before, and as Colonel Ayers

puts it, the State has lifted from the

shoulders of families one of the most oner-

ous and vexatious monopolies that ever

fastened itself upon a people.

THE ASSISTED CLASSES.

We take it that no, or very few, observant

Americans can be found who do not

admit that it is necessary to put greater

restrictions upon the immigration of

the United States. The law now

in force is a refuge, to which all who

choose may flee, by virtue of inherent

right, is now nearly dead. It never should

have had vitality. When the country was

sparsely settled, and the common laborer

was in demand for great pioneer work

the American people simply tolerated the

continental gush, that preached the "right"

of any foreigner to land here.

There was something of this sentiment

noised early in the Chinese restriction de-

bate, but it has now practically died out.

So, then, for all material purposes we may

say that Americans demanding restriction

of immigration are vastly in the majority,

and their desire is, therefore, the unwritten

law—as yet—of the land. As far back as

1792 we put it upon the statute books that

certain classes should be excluded. The law

now stands upon the statute books, and

this law needs improvement. Judge

Brown, of the Federal Court of New

York, has ruled that the mere

fact that an immigrant has been "assisted"

by his Government to leave that country

and come to this, is not sufficient to estab-

lish liability to become a public charge.

Of course such a ruling puts an embargo

upon the Commissioners' effort to ex-

amine cannot produce proof in each

case to the effect that the emigrant "assisted"

by the Government is an undesirable

person likely to become a public charge

and ought to be excluded. The law now

stands upon the statute books, and

this law needs improvement. Judge

Brown, of the Federal Court of New

STATE TEXT-BOOKS.

EX-STATE PRINTER AYERS RE-

LUTES FALSEHOODS.

And Shows the Book Ring's Organ-

the San Francisco Chronicle, in

a Very Unfavorable Light.

(Los Angeles Herald, June 29th.)

On my return to this city, after a short

absence, I found that the Chronicle had

published an elaborate article in the

San Francisco Chronicle of last Friday

grossly attacking me for my part in the

State text-book publications. Whoever got

up this article was actuated by malice, and

exhibits an unforgottenness to the State

text-book ring of a partisan of the

old school-book writing. He twists and

distorts figures and misrepresents facts in

order to reach a foregone conclusion. A

short time since the Chronicle published a

patch, from the same source, in which

it was said that the State Board of

Education was greatly excited over a

proposal of \$20,000 in the text-book print-

ing department, and they didn't know

whether it had been spent by the present

incumbent or had not been left in the

treasury by State Printer Ayers. There

are not the exact words, but the alternative

idea conveyed was that I was defrauding

the fund to that amount. Professor Ira

Moore, a member of the Board, has since

told me that there was never such an idea

broached or intimated by the Board.

This merely to let the public see what

reliance is to be placed in whoever he is

quoted in the Chronicle. Now, however, the

sensations on the text-book work. In

this instance, I propose to show that he

has, by misquoting, taken away from

above living can be made from only five

acres and taking the grossest license with

figures, tried to mislead the people, and

to injure public credit, and to make

calculated to do an immense amount of

good to the community.

The writer, in order to lay a basis for his

attack upon the whole work, and especially

on me, goes back to the report made by me

to the Senate in 1885. I made that report

in response to a resolution of the Senate

requesting me to furnish an estimate of the

cost of printing a series of school

books. I prepared estimates of the cost of

binding from leading bookbinders in San

Francisco and Sacramento, and figured up

the cost of

